

REMARKS

The undersigned wishes to thank the Examiner for courtesies extended during the telephone interview conducted on June 5, 2007.

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Since the present amendment raises no new issues for consideration and, in any event, places the present application in better condition for consideration on appeal, it is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered under 37 CFR 1.116 in response to the last Office Action dated March 29, 2007, which made final rejections as to the pending claims.

Claims 1 and 24 are amended to remove the statements "bifunctional linker" and "residues" for variables L_1 and L_2 . Additionally, missing variables d and e for " $C(=Y_1)$ " and " $C(=Y_2)$ " are inserted in the claims where required. Support can be found, for example, from page 15, line 6 through page 15, line 2. Redundant embodiments of L_1 and L_2 are also removed in the claims.

Applicant also removed the term "residue" in claims 9 and 10 for variables R_1 and R_2 . An informality found in claim 21 has also been corrected. In the claim, the recitation of " L_3 " for variable L_4 has been removed since L_3 was not recited in claim 1.

Claim 24 is further amended to recite "x" not "n" for the repeating unit of PEG. Support can be found, for example, at page 21, lines 4-5.

The only rejection raised by the Examiner in the Office Action was the alleged failure of the claims to comply with the written description requirement of 35 USC 112, first paragraph. As was pointed out during the telephone interview, the amendments presented herein are urged to place the application in condition for allowance. The claims demonstrate to one of ordinary skill that the inventor was indeed in possession of the claimed subject matter. The formulas and variables used therein are those well understood by the artisan of ordinary skill. Indeed, the requirements of MPEP2163 are fully met. Reconsideration and removal of the rejection are therefore proper and earnestly solicited.

This response is being filed with a shortened period for response. Thus, no fee is believed to be required. If, on the other hand, it is determined that any further fees are due or any overpayment has been made, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit or credit such sum to deposit account 02-2275.

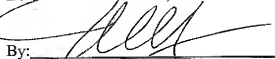
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), please treat this and any concurrent or future reply in this application that requires a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The fee associated therewith is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

In view of the actions taken and arguments presented, it is respectfully submitted that each and every one of the matters raised by the Examiner have been addressed by the present amendment and that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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